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RAIA'S IS NOW POLOVINA ITALIAN CAFE New Name, New Décor Enhance Customer Experience

HOUSTON, June 20, 2012 – Today, after ten months under new ownership, Raia's Italian Cafe officially became Polovina Italian Cafe.

New signage, upgraded interior, and an enhanced patio herald the arrival of a new chapter in the life of the casual, neighborhood Italian restaurant located at 4500 Washington Avenue, Suite 200. Started in 2008, the restaurant opened as one of the pioneers of the Washington Avenue rebirth, and has continued to wow its fans.

Polovina has been redressed in its new signature colors, with lighting, interior canopies and larger tables. The spacious patio area has been significantly upgraded with new lighting, more tables, and all-important shade for its diners' comfort.

"We've taken great care to make sure that the changes we have made are in keeping with the casual vibe that customers love about our restaurant," said Terry Polovina, the restaurant's owner. "We've tried to bring something new to the space, but also to continue to serve our customers the food that has made the restaurant a success over the past four years."

In addition to changes to the look of the restaurant that have been phased in over the past ten months, Polovina has enhanced its menu with new signature dishes, weekly and happy hour specials, gluten-free pizza and pasta options, and menu choices specifically for kids.

As is sometimes the case, the more things change, the more they stay the same. The well-loved Raia's "pick three" lunch special remains at Polovina, providing weekday lunch diners with a choice of any three items from its daily lunch menu for just \$7.95, one of the best lunch values in Houston.

"We've been told loudly and clearly that our lunch special is something our customers want to continue to enjoy. The message has been received, and we're committed to providing fast, fresh and affordable lunch options that our customers want," said Polovina.

Polovina Italian Cafe's happy hour specials run from 4:00pm to 7:00pm every weekday, featuring drink specials and discounted appetizers. Weekend brunch service, from 10:30am to 2:30pm on Saturday and Sunday, features additional menu items, affordably priced, with most entrées under \$15.00.

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“The Raia family provided an excellent foundation for success, and we’re determined to keep building on that success by serving one customer at a time to the best of our ability, and continuing to enhance the customer experience,” Polovina added.

Polovina Italian Cafe serves traditional Italian cuisine from its location at 4500 Washington Avenue, Suite 200, Houston, Texas, 77007. The restaurant has been serving Washington Corridor and Houston Heights customers since 2008. Visit Polovina online at www.PolovinaItalian.com, facebook.com/PolovinaItalian, and twitter.com/PolovinaItalian.

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